



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton  
National Park

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## Grand Teton National Park News Release

### SEARCH IS UNDERWAY FOR OVERDUE HIKER

Grand Teton National Park rangers began searching today for a 22-year-old female, currently working seasonally in the area, who friends believe went for a hike in Hanging Canyon Sunday, July 6, around noon.

The hiker was reported overdue at 10 a.m. on Monday, July 7, when a friend called to alert park rangers that she had not returned from her hike. Her car was located at the south end of the String Lake parking lot. The hiker is a backcountry enthusiast who spends a lot of time in the mountains.

The park's contract helicopter and an estimated 40 people from Grand Teton National Park, Teton County Search and Rescue, and the Wyoming K-9 Search and Rescue are currently participating in the search effort. Rangers are performing aerial reconnaissance flights over Hanging Canyon as well as both Symmetry Couloir and Laurel Canyon—the two hiking and climbing areas that border Hanging Canyon most closely to the south and north—which they believe are the hiker's most likely destinations. Searchers have also been covering ground in these areas on foot. So far there has been no sign of the hiker.

This afternoon, the search strategy will be to increase the number of people in Hanging Canyon and begin a more systematic search of smaller, less visible areas within the canyon. Rangers then plan to widen the search area and further increase the number of searchers, continuing to scout the flanks of Mt. St. John (the least technical peak typically accessed from Hanging Canyon) but expanding efforts to include surrounding peaks and the Laurel Lake drainage.

It is possible the hiker chose a different hiking location or decided to spend the night out without informing friends.

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